



# NEWSLETTER

Fall 2015

## Celebrate Native American Heritage Month with AIANTA

Since 1991, the month of November has been officially designated to celebrate and honor the rich history and culture of America's Native people.

The effort to designate a day of Native American recognition at the turn of the 20th century has grown into an annual month-long commemoration providing an opportunity for the entire country to learn more about the contributions, achievements, traditions and culture of American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians.

Through initiatives such as tourism education, international and domestic

marketing, partnerships with federal agencies, academia and nonprofit organizations, as well as research and private sector partnerships, AIANTA leads the way in advancing cultural heritage tourism and economic development through tourism across Indian Country.

What better way to celebrate the lives and culture of Native Americans than to visit them and experience and learn about them and their land first-hand?

*Continue reading on page 5 for ways to celebrate this month.*

## The 17th Annual American Indian Tourism Conference

The Sky Ute Casino Resort was the scene of another successful American Indian Tourism Conference, presented by AIANTA September 13-17, 2015 and hosted by the Southern Ute Tribe at the award winning Sky Ute Casino Resort in Ignacio, Colorado.

The five-day event highlighted current tourism trends and new and upcoming projects in the Indian Country tourism

industry and provided a quality educational forum for tribes, organizations, and businesses.

This year, AIANTA unveiled, highlighted, and featured a multitude of groundbreaking initiatives and projects from Indian Country's tourism industry.

*Continue reading this story on page 2.*

## There's still time to participate in ITB Berlin with AIANTA!

Do you want to introduce your product or destination to the European market? Join AIANTA at the world's leading travel tradeshow, ITB Berlin, and be a part of the award winning American Indian pavilion, make invaluable contacts and receive expert training.

Continue reading about this exciting opportunity on page 7, or contact Rachel Cromer at 505-724-3578.

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# Message From the Executive Director

Dear Members, Partners, and Friends,

2015 has been an incredible year for the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA). With continuously increasing support and commitment from AIANTA membership, partners, tribal leadership and the tourism industry, AIANTA is able to continue making strides both in Indian Country and within the industry as a whole.



This September, AIANTA held its 17th Annual American Indian Tourism Conference (AITC) at the beautiful Sky Ute Casino Resort in Ignacio, Colorado – homelands of the Southern Ute Tribe. One of our most impressive conferences setting the bar high for the next conference. AIANTA hosted an inspiring lineup of expert speakers, educational topics, and drew a diverse network of attendees this year. On behalf of the AIANTA Board of Directors, Staff, AITC Co-chairs and AITC Planning Committee, we thank all of our conference sponsors, attendees, speakers and other participants for making this year such a great success.

Already looking forward, we're gearing up for the next conference – so mark your calendars for the 18th Annual American Indian Tourism Conference, September 11-15, 2016 in beautiful Tulalip, Washington.

In this edition of the AIANTA Newsletter, you will learn all about AIANTA's current projects including the cultural heritage site at the Desert View Watchtower at the Grand Canyon and American Indians & Route 66, the outstanding progress being made for Indian Country tourism in Congress, the 2015 AIANTA Destinations Award Winners, and so much more. You'll also hear about upcoming international outreach opportunities, including ITB Berlin in March 2016, and the opportunity to join the newly launched NativeAmerica.Travel.

As we celebrate Native American Heritage Month this November, don't forget to take this opportunity to not only recognize and commemorate all of the great contributions American Indian people and culture have made throughout history, but also educate those around you on the importance of authentic cultural heritage tourism. AIANTA is proud to work towards a sustainable, authentic Indian Country tourism industry, not only during the month of November, but year round.

Now, as 2015 is nearly over, we can't wait to see what 2016 has in store for AIANTA and Indian Country tourism!

Cheers,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Camille Ferguson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Camille Ferguson  
AIANTA Executive Director

# 17th Annual American Indian Tourism Conference: *The Highlights*

*Story continued from front*

The much anticipated launch and debut of the landmark consumer-based Indian Country destination website, NativeAmerica.Travel during AITC 2015, was a huge success – sparking inspiration and excitement throughout conference attendees, media, and leadership from around the country.

Another major highlight of this year's conference was hearing from keynote speaker, David Uberuaga, Superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park. His captivating presentation about the new development of the cultural heritage site at the Desert View Watchtower and Visitor Area at the Grand Canyon provoked important and exciting conversations about tribes and national parks re-creating these kinds of partnerships with tribes throughout the country.

The conference offered a wide range of valuable breakout sessions, topics and renowned speakers providing valuable education, training and ideas for all attendees. All presentations are available online at <http://aitc2015.com/program/>.

## 2015 EXHIBITORS & ARTISANS

The 2015 American Indian Tourism Conference featured a wide variety of exhibitors and artisans for attendees to visit throughout the event.



*Left: Nevada Indian Territory exhibitor booth*

*Right: ShirtsInk. creating custom t-shirts at their exhibit booth*



*Left: Judy and Robert Rosetta from Santo Domingo Pueblo*



*Right: Grand Canyon West exhibitor booth*

*AIANTA would like to give a special thank you to this year's sponsors: the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Sky Ute Casino Resort, Paragon Casino Resort, Tulalip Resort Casino, Chickasaw Nation, Arizona Office of Tourism, Navajo Nation Gaming, Colorado Tourism Office, Oneida Nation, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Vision Maker Media, Bureau of Land Management, Cherokee Nation Businesses, Choctaw Nation, Durango Area Tourism Office, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Inn of the Mountain Gods, Moenkopi Developers Corporation, Nevada Indian Territory, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Port Madison Enterprises, Radisson Inn Green Bay, Department of Commerce and Economic Development of the State of Alaska Strong Ones, and donations For the Cause from Tamastslikt Cultural Institute, Alaska Heritage Tours and Kenai Fjords Tours.*



## ENOUGH GOOD PEOPLE AWARDS BANQUET & SILENT AUCTION

AIANTA recognized the best of the Indian Country travel and tourism industry during its fourth annual Enough Good People Awards Banquet and Silent Auction. This year's silent auction raised \$4,125, and all proceeds go to the AIANTA Scholarship Program, which provides scholarships for Native students pursuing an education in the tourism or hospitality fields.



Best Cultural Heritage Experience was awarded to Alaskan Dream Cruises. (Pictured: Mario Fulmer, accepting award on behalf of Alaskan Dream Cruises with host, Roger Saterstrom from Tauck Tours.)



Best Tribal Destination of the Year Award went to Acoma Sky City Cultural Center and Haak'u Museum in New Mexico. (Pictured: Acoma Governor Fred Vallo and Emerson Vallo accepting award from Roger Saterstrom from Tauck Tours)

## GRAND CANYON *West*

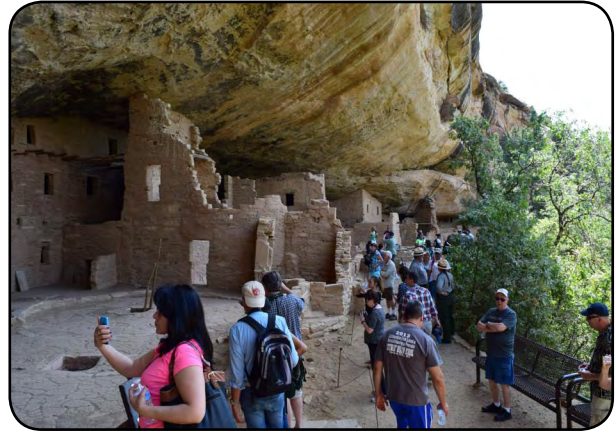
Grand Canyon West/Grand Canyon Sky Walk, which received the Excellence in Customer Service Award, is fully owned and operated by the Hualapai Nation. Grand Canyon West's nomination for this award came from a personal account from a traveler, who experienced outstanding customer service from all staff she interacted with from the beginning of her visit to the end.

2015 Enough Good People Awards went to Joe Garcia, Former Governor of Ohkay Owingeh; Kristen Lamoureux, PhD, New York University; Ron Erdmann, Deputy Director of Research, Office of Travel and Tourism Industries at the U.S. Department of Commerce; and David Uberuaga, Superintendent at the Grand Canyon National Park (Pictured below from left to right)



Edward Hall III, BIA Transportation Specialist & Tourism Coordinator and Co-Chair of the AITC Planning Committee, presenting the 2015 Enough Good People Awards

## AITC MOBILE WORKSHOPS



Pictured Above: Mesa Verde National Park mobile workshop tour



Pictured Above: Chimney Rock National Monument and Southern Ute Tribal Campus tour

**SAVE THE DATE**

SEPTEMBER 11-15, 2016

**AMERICAN  
INDIAN TOURISM  
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2016**



**AIANTA**

American Indian Alaska Native  
Tourism Association



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# CELEBRATE NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH WITH AIANTA

*November, 2015*



Here are a few suggestions to celebrate and promote Native American heritage in November and year round:

## 1. Take a tour with a Native guide

Don't just visit Indian Country; learn about the land and the people who call that land home from those who know it best. Taking a tour with a Native guide will enrich your experience from a genuine perspective and allow you to hear personal, authentic stories.

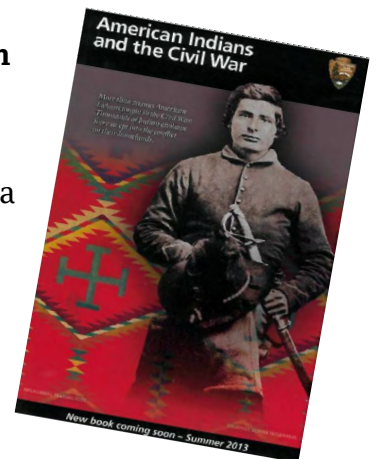
To find a tour or destination near you, visit [NativeAmerica.Travel](http://NativeAmerica.Travel)



NATIVEAMERICA  
.TRAVEL

## 2. Learn more about Native American history from the Native American perspective

- Read books about Native history written by Native American scholars and tribal members- why not give American Indians and the Civil War a try? Available from eParks.com, the official bookstore of the National Parks. (<http://www.eparks.com/store/product/106248/American-Indians-and-the-Civil-War/>)
- Take the time to learn the truth behind many of the myths and stories we are taught in school. [Here's](#) a great interview about the real first thanksgiving.
- Teach your kids about authentic Native history in your local area. Lessons of our Lands is a great resource for finding curriculum; it's a program designed to make it easy for Pre-K through Grade 12 teachers to incorporate Native American stories, lessons and games into regular classroom instruction. Visit <http://www.lessonsofourland.org/>



## 3. Support Native arts

Watch a movie by a Native American director or writer, read a book by a Native author, buy authentic Native artwork and jewelry.

To be sure you are purchasing authentic Native artwork, and supporting Native artists, always check with the [Indian Arts and Crafts Board](#) in your area first - or check to see if the retailer is a member of the [Indian Arts and Crafts Association](#).

# Welcome New AIANTA Board Members

*New Representatives from Minnesota and Oklahoma Join*

## *AIANTA Board of Directors*

AIANTA secured new board leadership at the 17th Annual American Indian Tourism Conference (AITC) at the Sky Ute Casino Resort in Ignacio, Colorado in September.



TRAVIS OWENS

Travis Owens, Senior Manager of Planning and Development for Cherokee Nation Businesses, was appointed as AIANTA's newest At-Large Representative. Owens manages all aspects of development associated with Cherokee Nation's cultural resources. In his position with the Cherokee Nation, Travis has worked to

develop restoration plans from multiple historic properties and managed the development of gift shops, welcome centers, museums and historic properties. Before joining Cherokee Nation Businesses, Travis worked for the Cherokee Nation Commerce Department focusing on rural community development through tourism.



SONJA TANNER

Sonja Tanner, President of the Native American Tourism Office of Minnesota (NATOM), was elected as AIANTA's new Midwest Regional Representative. Tanner opened Native Tours in 1999, working with both domestic and international tour groups coming into

the U.S. She is currently working with the 12 Minnesota tribes to start a non-profit that would become the liaison between the tribes and the State of Minnesota in a cooperative effort to increase visitors and provide education on tribal tourism opportunities.

## AIANTA IN THE NEWS



**COURIER**

*Using Interactive Mapping to Develop Community and Tourism in America's Indian Country*



*Spotlight: The Grand Canyon through Indian Eyes*

NATIVE PEOPLES MAGAZINE  
**NATIVE**  
PEOPLES

*Site Seeing: Indian Country*  
(See pages 50-51 in November/December issue)

  
**Indian Country**  
TODAY MEDIA NETWORK.com

*Cultural Tourism: A Growing Topic at Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention*

# There's still time to participate in ITB Berlin with AIANTA!

Every year, AIANTA presents an incredible opportunity to reach the European market – participation in ITB Berlin – and it's quickly approaching.

Each March, AIANTA sponsors an expansive American Indian pavilion at ITB Berlin, the world's leading travel trade show. This provides tribal tourism departments and tribal businesses the opportunity to showcase their programs and tour packages to the European tourism industry. Each American Indian and Alaska Native tribe or business at ITB Berlin makes invaluable contacts with international travel organizations, tour operators, booking agents, travel agents, and media from 180 countries. These tribes are featured in the Brand USA Discover America Pavilion, attracting large crowds of participants and hundreds of international travel media representatives.



## For more information on the show and participation:

Contact AIANTA's staff

**Rachel Cromer:**  
rcromer@aianta.org  
505-724-3578

**Camille Ferguson:**  
aianta.director@gmail.com

Visit the ITB website at:  
<http://www.itb-berlin.de/en/>

## Additional Information:

Participation Fee: \$1,200\*

### Includes:

- Meeting space within AIANTA's ITB Pavilion
- Space for cultural presentations or displays
- Brochure display
- Big screen monitor (shared time)
- Access to Brand USA Hospitality Lounge
- Media and social media promotion
- Opportunities for pre-scheduled media and tour operator appointments
- Photo of your destination featured in pavilion
- Pre-show "Know Before You Go" educational training via webinar and conference call
- Access to AIANTA's International Outreach Program consultants and staff pre-show and during the show
- Access to the ITB Virtual Market- place for setting up business and networking meetings
- Services related to AIANTA ITB booth maintenance
- Information on other opportunities as they arise

*\*The real value of this opportunity is estimated at more than \$15,000*



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## AIANTA Presents *Enough Good People* Award to Senator Schatz

*AIANTA recognizes Senator's bipartisan leadership on Federal initiative to empower native communities & expand cultural tourism opportunities*



*AIANTA Executive Director, Camille Ferguson in Senator Schatz's office presenting "Enough Good People" award to Senator Schatz. The Award was presented in the form of a print of "Medicine Lodges," by renowned ledger artist Terrance Guardipee. The Senator said he will hang the print in his Washington, D.C. Office.*

AIANTA presented Senator Brian Schatz (D-HI) with a special Enough Good People award to honor him for his authorship of S. 1579, the bipartisan NATIVE Act of 2015 (Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience Act) and for his leadership in championing economic development and cultural strength for American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians.

Each year, AIANTA awards "Enough Good People" awards to individuals, nominated and selected to honor outstanding contributions to Native tourism advancement. This year, however, AIANTA has chosen to present a special Enough Good People award to Senator Schatz, who recently wrote and co-sponsored the NATIVE Act in the U.S. Senate.

"Tourism is not only good for our economy, but it is one of the best ways for Native communities to tell their own stories and share their history and culture. No organization knows that better than AIANTA," said Senator Schatz. "This award is a real honor. I want to thank AIANTA for this award and for the work they do every day to advocate for Native communities and support tribes and Native-owned businesses in Hawai'i and across the country."

### **AIANTA's Outreach for Support Continues**



At the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) annual conference in San Diego, AIANTA Board President Sherry L. Rupert (pictured at right) discussed the NATIVE Act with Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN) before they paused to pose for a photo. At the same time, AIANTA Executive Director Camille Ferguson was in Washington, D.C. talking to McCollum's staff about the NATIVE Act and asking for the Representative's support, in follow-up to a letter written earlier by Sonja Tanner, AIANTA Midwest Board Representative, to Rep. McCollum expressing support by Minnesota tribes for the NATIVE Act. This teamwork resulted in Rep. McCollum signing on to the bill, a significant boost to the legislation, as Rep. McCollum is co-chair of the Congressional Native American Caucus. Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), the other co-chair of the caucus, is also a co-sponsor.

AIANTA Executive Director Camille Ferguson participated in an invitation-only Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus for travel industry executives with Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx in October. Hosted by Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) and Rep.



Sam Farr (D-CA), co-chairs of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus, the event was attended by ten top executives, including the President and CEO of U.S. Travel Association Roger Dow, Vice President of International Tour and Travel for Enterprise Rental Cars Omar Marchi, CEO of Tampa International Airport Joseph Lopano, Acting CEO of Cruise Line International Association Cindy D'Aoust, and Executive Director of Global Business Travel Association Michael McCormick. Camille spoke on behalf of AIANTA about the condition of reservation and rural roads and the need for additional travel infrastructure in Indian Country and participated in discussions about international inbound travelers and the condition of airports, transit and roads and improving ease of U.S. entry and transportation for travelers.

# Progress Continues on Cultural Heritage Project at Grand Canyon Desert View

AIANTA, along with several other partners, was recently awarded a prestigious grant from ArtPlace America to further position arts and culture as a core sector of creative placemaking. AIANTA, in collaboration with the Grand Canyon National Park and the park's Inter-tribal Advisory Council, will use the ArtPlace grant to fund the repurposing of the park's Desert View Visitor Area into an inter-tribal cultural heritage place.

All involved partners have been hard at work making plans and getting this landmark project started. The repurposing is continuing to develop, and the site has seen several exciting cultural events.

As reported by the St. George News, visitors were invited to the Desert View Watchtower during the weekend of September 24, where they were able to interact with Hopi sculptor Evelyn Fredericks, one of many Native American artisans presenting at the site in cultural series.

The series, which also featured artwork from other tribal artists, along with other cultural demonstrations are made possible by the ArtPlace America grant, and are all a part of re-purposing the historical site.



*Hopi glass blower, Ramson Lomatewama at Desert View Watchtower and Visitor Area*

Partners involved in this project include the Grand Canyon National Park, the Inter-tribal Advisory Council (ItAC) (including at various stages Hopi, Navajo, Zuni, Havasupai, Hualapai, Yavapai-Apache and the Kaibab Paiute), the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Grand Canyon Association (GCA) and the American Express Foundation.

## AIANTA Asks Federal Workers to Support Our Work with Public Lands and Cultural Tourism



#24527 American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association Tourism Association

AIANTA is new to the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Charity List. If you are a federal employee, we ask that you designate AIANTA to receive your contribution. Help AIANTA continue its work with tribes and public lands agencies to promote cultural tourism. AIANTA's number is 24527.

24527 American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (505)724-3592  
[www.aianta.org](http://www.aianta.org) EIN#450541654 AIANTA introduces America's Native Nations to the World, working with DOI/BIA/NPS, Public land agencies



# NATIVEAMERICA .TRAVEL

NATIVEAMERICA.**TRAVEL** is the first destination website to promote Indian Country tourism to the world.

AIANTA is still accepting new content for NATIVEAMERICA.**TRAVEL** to inspire travelers to visit Indian Country, inform them about tribes and their destinations in their own words, and offer an entry point to visitors for trip planning.

#### The website showcases:

- American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian (AIANNH) attractions, activities, and lodging
- Rich narrative experiences
- High-impact photographs and videos
- Interactive and filterable map

#### Who can be featured on NATIVEAMERICA.**TRAVEL**?

- Federal & State-recognized tribes, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska Natives
- AIANNH owned, tourism-related enterprises (e.g. casinos, tribal ventures monuments, Tribal parks, events, cultural centers, tribal landmarks)
- AIANNH businesses (e.g. tour companies, restaurants, arts and crafts shops)

#### Why join NATIVEAMERICA.**TRAVEL**?

- Reach a wider audience online with traffic driven integrated SEO marketing
- Control listing content at all times- tell your story to the world
- Listings are free for tribes at this time
- Visitors are steered to destinations and partners through live links and contact information for future trip planning

- Tribes will have the ability to use map data to support community development and planning
- The more listings on NATIVEAMERICA.**TRAVEL**, the better tool it becomes for potential visitors- be part of the success!

#### Register for NATIVEAMERICA.**TRAVEL**

To register please visit NATIVEAMERICA.**TRAVEL** and scroll down to the bottom of the page for three links:

- [Manage Your Tribe Page](#)
- [Add an Accommodation](#)
- [Add an Attraction](#)

Tribes may use all three links when signing up, adding attractions and accommodations.

#### For more information, email:

registration@nativeamerica**travel**.com  
or call AIANTA at 505-724-3592.





# Welcome Deborah McLaren to the Aianta Staff

## *Aianta Appoints New Public Lands Program Manager*



Deborah McLaren has joined Aianta's operations team, working remotely from St. Paul, MN, to further develop Aianta's goals of providing tribes and tribal members the tools and education to create tourism infrastructure and capacity.

The purpose of this position is to establish and develop Aianta's Public Lands Partnership Program, within which the organization grows and nurtures partnerships with other federal agencies, and includes projects such as "American Indians & Route 66," and the development of a new cultural heritage site at the Desert View Watchtower and Visitor Area at the Grand Canyon National Park.

Deborah comes to Aianta with more than 25 years of experience working with Indigenous Peoples around the world to advance their interests in tourism, specializing in cultural, sustainable tourism. She has served as a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) ecotourism consultant. She has also founded two non-governmental organizations: the Rethinking Tourism Project and Indigenous Tourism Rights International. Both provide education, training and mentoring for Indigenous Peoples from initial community projects to advancing their voices and participation in global treaties and conventions.

In her goal of enhancing responsible tourism and creating partnerships, Deborah has worked with tribes in the United States and Indigenous Peoples throughout the world. Now, as Aianta's Public Lands Program Manager, Deborah continues on that path towards her goal and is committed to grow existing partnerships and build new ones with federal and other public agencies on behalf of Aianta.

"When I heard about the opportunity to work with Aianta to promote tribal interests on U.S. public lands like our national parks and forests I thought 'this is an opportunity to change the system and the way things have been done for Native people for over a hundred years,'" said Deborah about her new position. "It's an exciting moment in history. Together, Aianta and our partners can have a great impact on America's future and heritage."

### **CONTACT DEBORAH**

[dmclaren@aianta.org](mailto:dmclaren@aianta.org)

(651) 983-9880

# AIANTA Hosts Alaska Regional Outreach Meeting



*Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention, October, 2015 in Anchorage Alaska*



*Camille Ferguson, Rachel Moreno, Mario Fulmer, Anna Barrera*

Each year, AIANTA uses designated funds to hold regional meetings to provide outreach, training, and discussion on Indian Country tourism. The Alaska Region held their 2015 regional meeting last month, as a part of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) annual convention in Anchorage, Alaska.

The AFN convention is the largest representative annual gathering in the United States of any Native peoples. For the second year in a row, AIANTA took advantage of this opportunity to reach as many Alaska tribes, businesses and people interested in tourism as possible in one gathering.

This year, tourism was an integrated part of the convention's agenda, with a presentation to the general session given by AIANTA Executive Director Camille Ferguson, as well as a breakout session dedicated to cultural and tribal tourism. AIANTA's Alaska Region also supported a booth for even more outreach and to provide in-person viewings and tutorials on the new NativeAmerica.Travel.

At the cultural tourism session Ferguson, along with Rachel Moreno, AIANTA Board Vice President and Vice Chair of the Sitka Tribal Council, educated attendees on the vast opportunities cultural tourism offers as well as AIANTA's main initiatives to promote and enhance Indian Country tourism throughout the world. These initiatives include international tradeshow, AIANTA's annual American Indian Tourism Conference, and AIANTA's new destination website, NativeAmerica.Travel. Anna Barrera, the new website's content and development coordinator, was also onsite during the session to provide training and more information on tribal inclusion on the site. Also presenting on cultural tourism and how to develop a tour product was Mario Fulmer, AIANTA Alaska Regional Board Representative and Programs Manager at Alaska Native Voices.

*Pictured Right: Rachel Moreno, AIANTA Vice President, presenting during cultural tourism workshop*

*Pictured Left: Camille Ferguson, AIANTA Executive Director, Presenting on cultural tourism to general session during AFN Convention*



## AMERICAN INDIANS & ROUTE 66



AIANTA is producing the American Indians and Route 66 Guidebook which will be contributing the American Indian story to the history of "America's Main Street". The idea of Route 66 - a pioneer of today's paved interstate highway system, was born during a June meeting of the American Association of State Highway Officials in San Francisco, California, in 1924 and became an official highway in 1926. 2016 will mark the 90th anniversary of Route 66 and will be commemorated in major events. Tribes are eager for

their connections to Route 66 to be known and their contributions to history, acknowledged. The Guidebook will be placing real faces and true tribal stories to help dispel the stereotype used to attract the early travelers of the route. American Indians and Route 66 seeks to open the discussion by introducing readers to a new perspective; representing the 27+ tribal nations on or near Route 66.

The Guidebook will be published by AIANTA, with support from the National Park Service and distributed in 2016.



*American Indians line up to vote for the first time in New Mexico in 1948. It took a federal court decision to make possible - 24 years after President Calvin Coolidge signed the Indian Citizenship Act and after American Indians fought for the U.S. in both world wars.*



# NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION: Our Six Regions

## Alaska Region



### SHI Work Featured in 50 Humanities Projects that have Shaped the Country

*By Kathy Dye, September 29, 2015*



Sealaska Heritage Institute's work on the Tlingit language was chosen by a federal humanities agency as one of 50 projects in the country that has enriched and shaped American lives during the last half century.

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) singled out SHI's efforts to document and revitalize the Tlingit language as part of its 50-year anniversary celebration and is featuring 50 projects on its "Celebrating 50 Years" website that represent the

best of the work the agency has funded.

SHI President Rosita Worl called the announcement humbling and rewarding.

"It's quite an honor to be included among some of the top notch work featured by the NEH," said Worl. "And it is gratifying for our institute to be recognized for work deemed to have enriched the country."

Read the whole story at [alaska-native-news.com](http://alaska-native-news.com)

## Alaskan Dream Cruises Adding Fifth Vessel

*By Theresa Norton Masek, September 3, 2015*

Alaskan Dream Cruises, a native-owned company that operates small ships, is adding a fifth vessel for the 2016 season.



The 207-foot Chichagof Dream was renovated in the company's shipyard in Sitka, Alaska. It will carry up to 74 passengers in 37 staterooms in five room categories. The four-deck ship features viewing areas on the bow and aft promenade decks and new carpets and furnishings in public spaces and staterooms.

"We're entering our sixth year and our sights are trained on growth," said company CEO Russell Dick. "The Chichagof Dream expands our capacity and at the same time we're consolidating our itineraries to concentrate on what our guests have really responded to."

Read the whole story at:

<http://www.travelpulse.com/news/cruise/alaskan-dream-cruises-adding-fifth-vessel.html>

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION: Our Six Regions

## Eastern Region



***Note:** Lora Ann Chaisson, featured in this story, is also an Eastern Regional Representative on the AIANTA Board of Directors*

### A True Houma-Made Meal

In Louisiana, a tribal leader shares her recipe for gumbo

*Story by Loretta Barrett Oden(Potawatomi)*

Lora Ann Chaisson (Vice Principal Chief of the United Houma Nation of Louisiana) is a “woman of the bayous born,” who speaks in the dulcet tones of her Houma-French tongue.

A woman possessing great spirit and commitment, she faces life with the most dazzling of smiles and a contagious chuckle..... [a portion of this story was removed in this newsletter, to read the entire story, please visit <http://www.nativepeoples.com/Native-Peoples/September-October-2015/A-True-Houma-Made-Meal/>]

Her home, her tribe and her extended family, for the most part, reside within a six-parish area along the southeastern coast of Louisiana encompassing 4,570 square miles. The six parishes are Terrebonne, Lafourche, Jefferson, St. Mary, St. Bernard, and Plaquemines.

Lora Ann comes from a long line of fishers and shrimpers. She is also a well-seasoned alligator hunter. An accomplished palmetto basket weaver who also makes beautiful traditional jewelry of alligator “rumble bones” and garfish scales, it comes as no surprise that her talent in the kitchen is unrivaled.

The large family gatherings are a joyful time of singing, dancing and, of course, cooking amazing food. Her Daddy, Theo, is famous in the region for his seafood “boils” (pronounced as “bolls” in the local dialect).

The rich food history of this region comes together in this Filé Gumbo recipe. For hundreds of years, the Louisiana tribes have used dried ground sassafras leaves - file powder - as a thickener and seasoning in their soups and stews. Never using a roux because wheat flour and lard were introduced much later by the Europeans.

The name of the dish has been debated but it is most likely derived from either the African word for okra (ki ngombo) or the Choctaw word for filé (kombo). There are many variations but this is a very traditional Houma recipe.

Find Lora Ann’s gumbo and potato salad recipes in the September/October 2015 issue of Native Peoples magazine.

To read the story, visit <http://www.nativepeoples.com>



PHOTO BY KITTY LEAKEN

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION: Our Six Regions

## Midwest Region



**The National Center**  
**for**  
**American Indian Enterprise Development**

### **AIANTA Midwest Board Representative, Ernie Stevens III Awarded 2015 “Native American 40 Under 40” by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development**



*Ernie Stevens III,  
Oneida, Wisconsin*

The National Center for American Enterprise Development (NCAIED) is pleased to announce its 2015 class of “Native American 40 Under 40” award recipients. This prestigious award is bestowed upon individuals under the age of 40, nominated by members of their communities, who have demonstrated leadership, initiative, and dedication and made significant contributions in business and their community. The winners will be honored during a gala at the Reservation Economic Summit (RES) New Mexico, taking place from November 16-19 at Buffalo Thunder Resort & Casino in Santa Fe, New Mexico.



## **Tribe moving forward with West Grand Traverse Bay marina**

SUTTONS BAY, Mich. (AP) - A tribe's plan to build a marina on West Grand Traverse Bay will continue without the ferry dock portion of the project.

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians received approval in 2013 to build a 106-slip marina across from its tribal administration building on M-22. However, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality denied a request last July for a 40-foot-wide pier for vessels that would carry people and vehicles from Peshawbestown to Beaver Island, Petoskey, Charlevoix, Traverse City and East Bay.

The tribe has the option of appealing the decision, but tribal architect Steve Feringa tells the Traverse City Record-Eagle (<http://bit.ly/1RdtpQc>) that the marina won't be put on hold while it waits to hear back about the pier.

Construction on the marina could begin late this winter.

Read the entire story at <http://www.9and10news.com/story/30369379/tribe-moving-forward-with-west-grand-traverse-bay-marina>



# NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION: Our Six Regions

## Pacific Region

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# NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION: Our Six Regions

## Plains Region



### Awards honor Cherokee Art Market winners

By Michael Smith, October 10, 2015



*The 10th annual Cherokee Art Market on Friday awarded "Best in Show" to Jackie Larson Bread and Ken Williams for their beadwork entry, "Fit for An Arapaho/Blackfeet Dandy." Photo from [TulsaWorld.com](http://TulsaWorld.com)*

The 10th annual Cherokee Art Market on Friday awarded "Best in Show" to Jackie Larson Bread and Ken Williams for their beadwork entry, "Fit for An Arapaho/Blackfeet Dandy."

Awards were handed out during a reception at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa, and the prize money given to Cherokee Art Market winners totaled \$75,000, distributed among honorees in 25 categories, according to a press release.

Cultural demonstrations include jewelry, stamp work technique, katsina dollmaking, pottery, painting, basket weaving and music. Works of art from more than 150 elite Native American artists from 50 tribes are featured at this event.

To read the whole story, visit [TulsaWorld.com](http://TulsaWorld.com)

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## PRESS RELEASE

### NATIVE AMERICAN SCENIC BYWAY: The Best Byways in America

July 2015 - The Native American Scenic Byway has been included by Men's Journal magazine as one of the best byways in America. Men's Journal is a lifestyle magazine focused on outdoor recreation and environmental issues as well as other topics geared toward active and adventurous lifestyles.



The Native American Scenic Byway includes a collection of roadways throughout the Crow Creek, Lower Brule, Cheyenne River and Standing Rock reservations in South and North Dakota. These roadways have been designated by the United States Department of Transportation as being diverse and distinct and there are only 150 roads that have been designated as America's Byways. From North to South the Native American Scenic Byway begins at the Cannonball River in North Dakota and ends at I-90 in Chamberlain, South Dakota. For more information about the Byway go to <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/byways/>.

To read the Men's Journal article go to <http://www.mensjournal.com/expert-advice/the-best-byways-in-america-20150717>.

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION: Our Six Regions

## Southwest Region



### PRESS RELEASE

Chris Moran,  
cmoran@travelnevada.com  
Nevada Division of Tourism,  
775-687-0616  
www.TravelNevada.com

## Nevada's Indian Territory releases two culturally rich travel itineraries

*Editors: For photos, click [here](#).*

From crystalline Lake Tahoe in the north to the petroglyph-rich Grapevine Canyon in the south, Nevada is full of wonders sacred to the state's American Indian culture. Nevada's Indian Territory, a volunteer organization promoting the state's tribal tourism, has just released two official itineraries highlighting many culturally significant sites.

"We are pleased and excited about these tribal itineraries," Sherry Rupert, Nevada's Indian Territory chairwoman, said. "It is an opportunity for the general public to explore Nevada's American Indian history and culture at their leisure. We encourage everyone to take advantage of these itineraries, which include cultural information, drive times and suggested lodging."

Itineraries are available for both northern and southern Nevada. Highlights from the 3-Night Northern Nevada Indian Territory Adventure:

- Stewart Indian School: On the south end of Carson City, visitors can walk in the footsteps of former students at this historic Indian boarding school along the

"Talking Trail" and experience the history of the school through a self-guided cell phone walking tour.

- Pyramid Lake: located 35 miles north of Reno, discover the unique history and culture of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (Kuyuidokado) at the Pyramid Lake Museum & Visitors Center or enjoy camping and world class fishing at the lake (tribal permit required) .

- Grimes Point Archeological Site: Just east of Fallon, this site offers an interpretive path from which visitors can see petroglyphs (ancient rock art). Grimes Point is near Hidden Cave, an archeological site open on select weekends for guided tours.

Highlights from the 3-Night Southern Nevada Indian Territory Adventure:

- Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas: Located within the Springs Preserve campus, the museum features interactive exhibits on important Nevada American Indian leaders Sarah Winnemucca, Wovoka and Dat So La Lee.

- Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort: Owned and operated by the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe (Tudinu), the resort features three world-class 18-hole courses, a pro shop and an award winning restaurant.

- Grapevine Canyon: About 90 miles south of Las Vegas near Laughlin, Grapevine Canyon offers a short walk through boulders and canyons bearing petroglyphs and other evidence of the area's prehistoric people.

The northern Nevada itinerary can be downloaded [here](#). The southern Nevada itinerary can be downloaded [here](#). Visitors should note that museum hours and tribal regulations are subject to change, so contacting or visiting tribal administration offices or museums before your visit is recommended. For information about proper etiquette when visiting a tribal community or purchasing authentic American Indian art, visit the Nevada Indian Territory website, [www.nevadaindianterritory.com](http://www.nevadaindianterritory.com).



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## Washoe Development Corporation

The Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California operates the Meeks Bay Resort on the Western shore of beautiful Lake Tahoe. The Resort includes Kehlet Mansion, Washoe House, mountain cabins, beachfront lodges, a marina and watersports. In July, the Tribe hosts its popular annual Wa She Shu It Deh Arts and Crafts Festival at the Vallhalla Community Events Center in Lake Tahoe, California.



**Contact: Greg T. Weyland, Director of Operations, Washoe Development Group, 919 Hwy 3095 S, Gardnerville NV 89410, 775.265.8600, [greg.veyland@washoetribe.us](mailto:greg.veyland@washoetribe.us), [www.meeksbayresort.com](http://www.meeksbayresort.com)**

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## Mesa Verde Country

Mesa Verde Country is located in southwest Colorado near the entrance to the magnificent Mesa Verde National Park. Named the "Number One Historic Monument in the World" by Conde Nast Traveler and one of the "50 Places of a Lifetime-The World's Greatest Destinations," by National Geographic, Mesa Verde National Park is one of the nation's first World Heritage sites and the largest archaeological preserve in the country.



**Contact: Kelly Kirkpatrick, Tourism Director, Mesa Verde Country VIB, 928 E Main, Cortez, CO 81321, (970) 565-8227, [kellyk@mesaverdecountry.com](mailto:kellyk@mesaverdecountry.com), [www.mesaverdecountry.com](http://www.mesaverdecountry.com)**

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## Port Madison Enterprises

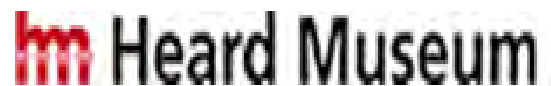
The Suquamish Tribe is located along the shores of the Kitsap Peninsula in Washington State. They established Port Madison Enterprises to develop community resources, promoting the economic and social welfare of the Suquamish Tribe through commercial activities. The Enterprise's businesses include the Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort, the historic Kiana Lodge, three retail outlets, White Horse Golf Club and a property management division.



**Contact: Brittany Bakken, Sales Manager 15347 Suquamish Way NE, Suquamish Washington, 98392, (360) 598-1422, [brittanybakken@clearwatercasino.com](mailto:brittanybakken@clearwatercasino.com)**

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## The Heard Museum



The Heard Museum explores American Indian art, history and lifeways through the voices of Native people while celebrating the creative innovations of today's most masterful artists. The Heard's signature event, the prestigious Heard Museum Guild Indian Fair & Market, is held annually the first weekend in March with more than 600 artists, performances and art and chef demonstrations. The Heard Museum Shop is acclaimed for its commitment to featuring only authentic Native art as well as one of the Southwest's most comprehensive selection of books and other local items.

**Contact: Mary Dashnaw, Executive Assistant to the Director, 2301 N. Central Ave, Phoenix Arizona, 85004, (602) 251-0226, [mdashnaw@heard.org](mailto:mdashnaw@heard.org), [www.heard.org](http://www.heard.org)**

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## Woodland Indian Art, Inc.

Woodland Indian Art is a community-based group operating within the Oneida Nation in Wisconsin Reservation. The organization produces an annual Show and Market which is an art competition and market. It showcases the artistic styles of Native Americans in the upper Midwest and northeastern regions of the United States. Events educate the public about the unique culture and history of the artists and include classes, silent auction, youth art show, juried art competition and music performances.



**Contact: Loretta Webster, Treasurer, Woodland Indian Art, PO Box 116, Oneida, WI 54155, 920-713-8030, [info@bearpawartgallery.com](mailto:info@bearpawartgallery.com)**

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## Opiq Adventures, LLC.

"Opiq" in Inupiat means a fierce bird of prey, the Snowy Owl. Opiq Adventures is a year round operation showing people the best of what the Seward Peninsula has to offer which includes wildlife viewing, birdwatching, photography, hiking, and observing local culture. Their tours give visitors a deep experience in nature interacting with their culture, support local businesses, respect traditional knowledge and remain dedicated to the beauty of their land - "Opiq Adventures will show a great time while you learn about the interconnectedness around us."



**Contact: Dora Mae Hughes, Owner, Opiq Adventures, LLC, 586 E. Grantley Avenue, Teller, AK 99778, 907.434.2427, [dora@opiqadventures.com](mailto:dora@opiqadventures.com), [www.opiqadventures.com](http://www.opiqadventures.com)**

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## Ute Mountain Casino, Hotel & Resort

You will find the Ute Mountain Casino, Hotel and RV Park nestled in the shadow of the legendary Sleeping Ute Mountain, 25 miles north of the Four Corner borders. The legend of Sleeping Ute Mountain says it is a sleeping warrior god who came to fight the evil ones and will rise again if needed. For adventure, visit the Ute

Mountain Tribal Park, located nearby and tour the ancestral lands of the Ute Mountain Utes. The area is accessed by tour guide only. The Trail of the Ancients Scenic and Historic Byway, a 114-mile route passes the casino and leads to a number of historic sites, including the cliff dwellings of Mesa Verde National Park, the Ancestral Puebloan ruins at Canyons of the Ancients National Monument and the Anasazi Heritage Center.



**Contact: Andrea Baker, Sales Manager, Ute Mountain Casino, Hotel & Resort, PO Box 268, Towaoc, CO 81334, 970.564.6144, [abaker@utemountaincasino.com](mailto:abaker@utemountaincasino.com), [www.historycolorado.org/museums/ute-indian-museum-0](http://www.historycolorado.org/museums/ute-indian-museum-0)**

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## Sonja Tanner, Our People Our Story Tours

Sonja is a member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe and the owner of OPOS Tours, LLC., (Our People Our Story), which conducts escorted group cultural tours across Indian Country. Sonja is an appointed member to the Governor's Commission on Tourism representing the interests of the 11 tribal nations in Minnesota. Sonja was recently elected to the AIANTA Board of Directors to represent the Midwest Region.

**Contact: Sonja Tanner, 10216 Queen Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55431, (612) 508-6438, [sonjatanner@gmail.com](mailto:sonjatanner@gmail.com)**

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## Alger Swingley, Blackfeet Outfitters

Alger is the owner of Blackfeet Outfitters, located on the beautiful Blackfeet Indian Reservation, bordered on the north by Canada and the west by Glacier National Park. An accomplished big game hunter and one of the finest fly casters around, his love for the backcountry and outdoors led him form this year around guide service. Blackfeet Outfitters employs a guides from the Blackfeet Tribe who provide hunting, fishing, rafting, jeep and hiking tours while giving guests a chance to learn about the culture and history of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation.

**Contact:** Alger Swingley, Blackfeet Outfitters, 10 Highway 17, Babb, MT 59411, 406.450.8420, [blackfeetoutfitters@gmail.com](mailto:blackfeetoutfitters@gmail.com)

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## Char Kruger, Ute Indian Museum

Char is the new director for the Ute Indian Museum. She was formerly the Museum Education Curator of the Navajo Nation Museum. The Ute Indian Museum is located on the original 8.65-acre homestead site of Chief Ouray, famed leader of the Ute people, and is one of the nation's most complete collections of the Utes, featuring exhibits and dioramas that let visitors experience the history, culture and daily life of the early inhabitants of the Uncompahgre Valley.



**Contact:** Char Kruger, Ute Indian Museum, 17253 Chipeta Road, Montrose, CO 81403, (970) 249-3098, [char.kruger@state.co.us](mailto:char.kruger@state.co.us)

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## Clancy Sivertsen, Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Clancy is Vice Chair of the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians which is headquartered in Great Falls, Montana. The tribe is recognized by the State of Montana and has been working for federal recognition for decades. The tribe is named after its nineteenth-century leader, Esens, known as "Little Shell," who walked out on the treaty negotiations with the US government in the late 1800s. The Tribe opened the Little Shell Cultural Center in 2014.

**Contact:** Clancy Sivertsen, Little Shell Chippewa Tribe, 625 Central Ave West, PO Box 543, Black Eagle, MT, 59414-0543, (406) 738-4444, [clancy@3rivers.net](mailto:clancy@3rivers.net)

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## Della Warrior, Museum of Indian Arts & Culture

Della is the Director of Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/New Mexico Laboratory of Anthropology (MIAC) located in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She previously served as Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer for the Otoe-Missouria Tribe and as the President of the Institute of American Indian Arts. She has also served on the boards of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities, the American Indian College Fund and the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium.



**Contact:** Della Warrior, Museum of Indian Arts & Culture, 7/1/2016, P.O. Box 2087, Santa Fe, NM 87504, 505.476.1251, [Della.Warrior@state.nm.us](mailto:Della.Warrior@state.nm.us), [www.indianartsandculture.org](http://www.indianartsandculture.org)



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## Dixie Ellis, Lower Antelope Canyon Tours

Dixie and her son Stetson own Lower Antelope Canyon Tours which accommodates smaller group sizes and the guide stays with the group during the entire tour, sharing information about the geology, history, and the Navajo Traditional ways. "We offer quality, informative, considerate and professional tours," says Dixie. The Navajo name for Lower Antelope Canyon is Hasdeztwazi or "Spiral Rock Arches." It is one of the most photographed landscapes in the world.

**Contact:** Dixie Ellis, Lower Antelope Canyon Tours, PO Box 2387, Page, AZ 86060, (928) 640-1761, [lowerantelope.d.ellis@gmail.com](mailto:lowerantelope.d.ellis@gmail.com)

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## Janet Cohen, Grand Canyon National Park

Janet Cohen is a cultural anthropologist whose career has been focused on integrating indigenous perspectives into natural and cultural resource management. Janet has worked for state, federal, and tribal governments - living and working in rural Alaska and on the Navajo Nation. She is currently the Tribal Program Manager (liaison) at Grand Canyon National Park. Janet facilitates and coordinates consultation with the park's traditionally associated tribes to give tribes a voice in park projects and management. She helps maintain lasting relationships that recognize the significance of Grand Canyon in tribal histories, ongoing culture and daily lives.



**Contact:** NPS Janet Cohen, MA, Cultural Anthropologist, Grand Canyon National Park, 1824 S. Thompson Street Suite 200, Flagstaff, AZ 86004, 928-638-7445, [janet\\_cohen@nps.gov](mailto:janet_cohen@nps.gov)

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## Michon R. Eben, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC)

Michon is an enrolled Paiute/Shoshone from the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony where she works as the Cultural Resource Manager and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO). The RSIC Cultural Resources Program revitalizes and perpetuates culture by its active expression of sovereignty through the preservation, protection and management of Native American cultural resources and traditional cultural properties throughout Washoe County, Nevada. Their department also provides educational outreach, public information & community seminars on RSIC culture.



**Contact:** Michon R. Eben, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, 34 Reservation Rd, Reno, NV 89502, (775) 785-1326, [meben@rsic.org](mailto:meben@rsic.org), [www.rsic.org/](http://www.rsic.org/)

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## Olivia "Rose" Williamson

Olivia "Rose" Williamson is a talented beadworker and the owner of Indian Battle Tours.

**Contact:** Olivia Williamson, Indian Battle Tours, PO Box 728, Crow Agency, MT 50922, [liviartose\\_wmson@yahoo.com](mailto:liviartose_wmson@yahoo.com)

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## Peter LeBlanc, St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin

Peter is the Intergovernmental Affairs staff for the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, a Federally recognized Indian Tribe, located in northwestern Wisconsin, along the St. Croix River valley and watershed. The Tribe operates Eagles Landing Campground, the St. Croix Tribal Travel Agency, three casinos. "St. Croix Casino Turtle Lake", "St. Croix Casino Hertel", and "St. Croix Casino Danbury." For more than 20 years, the Tribe has held an Annual St. Croix Wild Rice Pow-wow.



**Contact: Peter LeBlanc, St. Croix Chippewa Indians, 24663 Angeline Avenue, Webster, WI 54893, (715) 349-2195, [peterlablanc@stcroixchippewa.com](mailto:peterlablanc@stcroixchippewa.com)**

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## Teresa L. Van Aernam

Teresa is the director of the SUNY Fredonia-Seneca Nation Science & Technology Entry Program (STEP). STEP's purpose is to increase the number of historically underrepresented and economically disadvantaged students prepared to enter college, and improve their participation rate in mathematics, science, technology, health related fields and the licensed professions.

**Contact: Teresa L. Van Aernam, 12413 Route 438, Irving, NY 14081, (715) 525-6244, [teresa.vanaernam@fredonia.edu](mailto:teresa.vanaernam@fredonia.edu)**

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## Sarah Oro, Choctaw Nation Tourism

Sarah serves as the Director of Tourism and Marketing for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. In her role, she promotes and develops the Choctaw Nation's tourism offerings as well as handles marketing for the Business Development and Small Business Development departments. Whether you are seeking outdoor adventures, an exciting look into the past or a peaceful getaway, Choctaw Country in Southeast Oklahoma is a perfect spot for your family vacation or weekend getaway. Get ready to explore the variety of things we have to offer—casinos, wineries, history, state parks, scenic drives and so much more!



**Contact: 504 N. 1st Avenue, Durant OK 74701, [soro@choctawnation.com](mailto:soro@choctawnation.com), 580-924-8280, [www.visitchoctawnation.com](http://www.visitchoctawnation.com)**

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## Teri Dahl, Cowboy Real Art

Teri is Blackfeet artist and graphic designer who grew up on the Blackfeet Reservation. She owns Cowboy Real Art with her husband Dennis. Teri has been photographing rodeo culture for 14 years, capturing over a million images during that time. Her artwork has been featured in the Cowboys and Indians magazine, and she has been the official photographer for the Indian National Finals Rodeo on five occasions.



**Contact: Teri Dahl, Cowboy Real Art, 25153 US Hwy 2 West, Cut Bank, MT 59427, (406) 845-8052, [cowboyrealart@gmail.com](mailto:cowboyrealart@gmail.com)**

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## Wendi Lewis, StrongOnes

Wendi works at Moenkopi Developers and is the Project Manager of StrongOnes, which was started as a project to highlight and promote only Hopi running and has now expanded to highlight ALL tribes and cultures of running. StrongOnes was inspired by the famous Hopi runner Louis Tewanima who represented the United States in the Olympics.



**Contact:** Wendi Lewis, StrongOnes, P.O. Box 100, Tuba City, Arizona 86045, (928) 283-4500, [wlewis@moenkopidevelopers.com](mailto:wlewis@moenkopidevelopers.com), [www.strongonesrunning.com/](http://www.strongonesrunning.com/)

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## Melvin Juanico, Acoma Business Enterprises

Melvin Juanico is the group tour director for Acoma Pueblo, one of the most accessible of the pueblos, Acoma not only encourages visitors, but makes it an easy endeavor with guided tours. The tours are one of the projects of the Acoma Business Enterprises which was established by the Pueblo 25 years ago to help sustain the economic development of our people. Other tourism enterprises include Sky City Cultural Center and Haak'u Museum, Acoma Big Game Trophy Hunt, Sky City Casino/Hotel, Sky City RV Park, Huwak'a Restaurant and the Sky City Travel Center.



**Contact:** Melvin Juanico, Acoma Business Enterprises, PO Box 310, Acoma, NM 87034, 505.552.7869, [mjuanico@skycity.com](mailto:mjuanico@skycity.com), [www.acomaskycity.org/](http://www.acomaskycity.org/)



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Gail Chehak  
AIANTA Membership & Development Coordinator  
505-243-3633  
[gchehak@aianta.org](mailto:gchehak@aianta.org)

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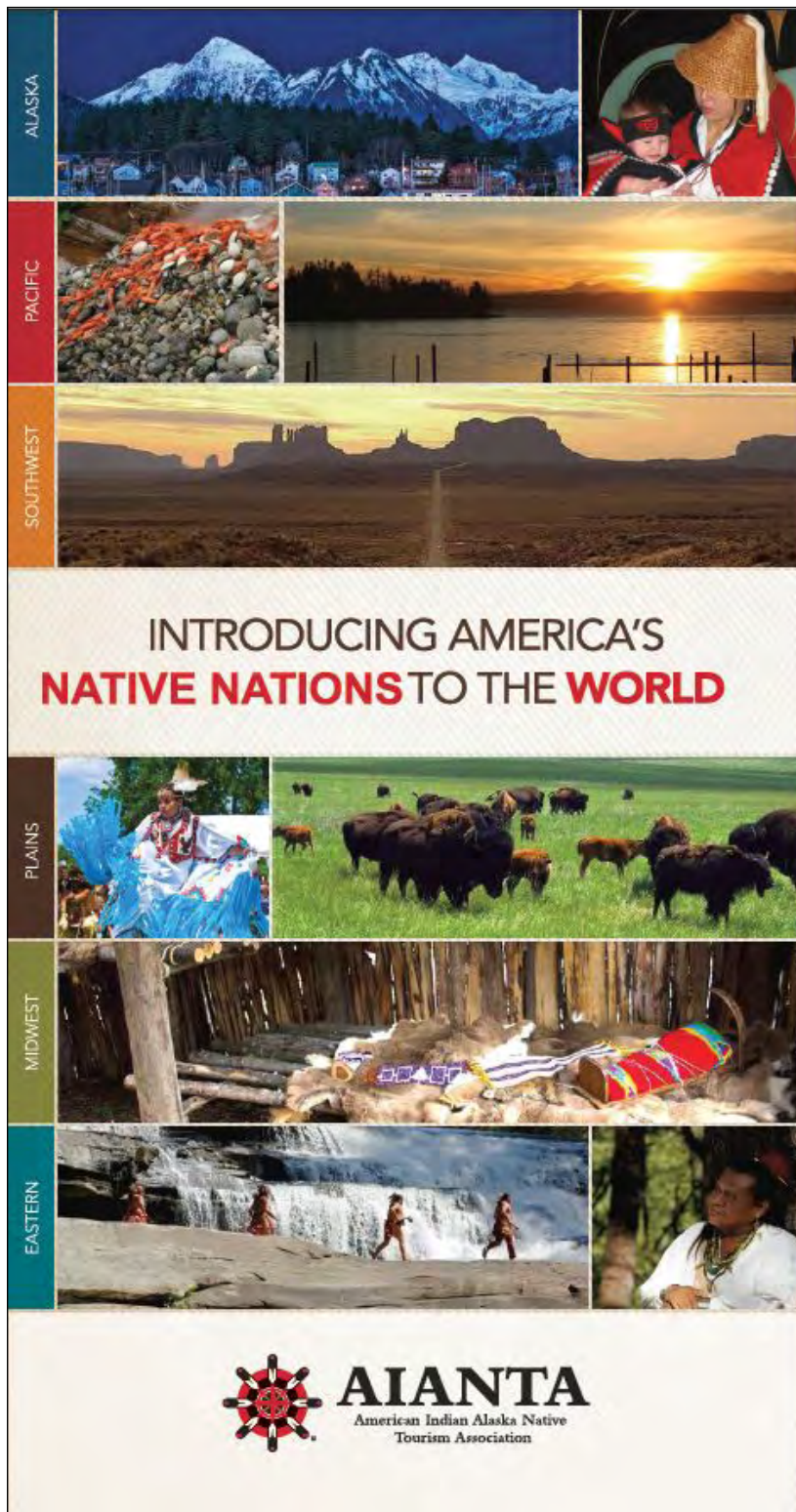
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# AIANTA

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